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April 4, 2012

Chair Ravel and Commissioners Eskovitz,
Garrett, Montgomery, and Rotunda
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 600
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Agenda Item 17: AB 1648 (Brownley) – CA DISCLOSE Act – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Ravel and Commissioners,

On behalf of California Common Cause and our 400,000 national members, please accept this letter urging you to support Assembly Bill 1648, the California DISCLOSE Act.

AB 1648 would provide essential reforms to California's campaign finance disclosure laws and increase transparency in our elections. This bill would identify the top contributors of ballot measure campaigns in all television ads, radio ads, print and mass mailing ads, and websites; and would require other contributors to be listed on Secretary of State's website.

California Common Cause strongly supports these disclosure provisions because in every election cycle special interests flood voter's airwaves and mailboxes with messages from political action committees and ballot measure committees. These PACs and other committees consistently employ deceitful names and monikers in an attempt to fool voters. California voters deserve to have honest information about who is funding political campaigns. This information is critical to making informed decisions.

For these reasons, California Common Cause urges you to support AB 1648 to bring more transparency to California's elections.

Please contact me at pung@commoncause.org or (916) 520-4070 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Phillip Ung
Policy Advocate

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